phiques

le meilleur exemplaire qu'il
rocurer. Les détails de cet
t-être uniques du point de vue
vent modifier une image
ent exiger une modification
e de filmage sont indiqués

s

/or laminated/
/ou pelliculées

stained or foxed/
achetées ou piquées

ies/
'impression

tion/

index

n from:/
provient:

vraison

livraison

ues) de la livraison

Library.

30X

28X

32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

Memorial University of St. John's

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol → (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ▽ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:

1	2	3

1	2	3
4	5	6

L'exemplai
générosité

Me

Les images
plus grand
de la nette
conformité
filmage.

Les exempl
papier est
par le prem
dernière pa
d'impressio
plat, selon
originaux s
première pa
d'impressio
la dernière
empreinte.

Un des sym
dernière im
cas: le symb
symbole ▽

Les cartes,
filmés à des
Lorsque le d
reproduit en
de l'angle su
et de haut e
d'images né
illustrent la

L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

Memorial University of St. John's

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole → signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ▽ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

3

1
2
3

2	3
5	6

LONDONS BLAME, If not its SHAME:

Jenner, Thomas
NML
54
255
J4

Manifested by the great neglect of the Fishery, which affordeth to our Neighbor Nation yeerly, the Revenue of many Millions, which they take up at our Doors, whilst with the sluggard, we fold our hands in our bosoms and will not stretch them forth to our mouths.

Or the inestimable riches of the British Seas, which do yeild a monthly Harvest of several Fish in their season, which being brought into the Land, would make Flesh at a low rate, encrease Shipping, Mariners, Trade, and publique Revenue, whereof this Book doth give a plentiful account, the which we may in some measure thus accomplish:

Let every Ward in London *build a Buss, and Money to do it may be thus raised.*

If every Ward would pay a three moneths Assessment which they pay to the L. Generals Army, at the rate of 90000 *l. per mensem*, ready down, or if the poorer sort think it too much for them, if the richer will raise it, they may have the benefit of their Stock returned every half yeer, and one Merchant may be found in a Ward which may be the husband of that Buss for that yeer, and those 25. Merchants may be a Committee for the 25. Ships, for all Intents and purposes.

Which Ship would imploy all the Poor in their Ward, for to beat Hemp, to spin it, to make Twine, and Nets, and Cordage for the setting of Her forth, and may be called by the Name of the Ward.

Dedicated by *Thomas Jenner* to the Corporation of the Poor, in the City of *London*, being a member thereof, and desires that this Treatise may put them upon a more vigorous acting for time to come, that the whole City and Nation seeing this good Work, may be provoked to propagate it in the whole Land.

Eccles. 9. 10. *Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave where thou goest.*

Printed for *T. J.* at the South Entrance of the Royal Exchange, 1651.

Removed by Harvard

NML
54
255
54

...rvard College Library.
...ov. 1894.
Gift of
JOHN BARTLETT.
of Cambridge.

The ineſtimable Riches and Commodities of the Britiſh Seas.

THe Coaſts of Great Brittain do yeild ſuch a continual Sea-harveſt of grain to all thoſe that with diligence do labour in the ſame, that no time or ſeaſon in the year paſſeth away without ſome apparent means of profitable employments, eſpecially to ſuch as apply themſelves to Fiſhing, which from the beginning of the yeer unto the latter end, continueth upon ſome one Port or other upon our Coaſts, and therein ſuch infinite ſhoals and multitudes of Fiſhes are offered to the takers, as may juſtly move admiration (not only to ſtrangers, but) to thoſe that are daily employed amongſt them.

The Summer Fiſhing for Herrings begins about *Midſummer*, and laſteth ſome part of *Auguſt*; The Winter Fiſhing for Herrings laſteth from *September* to the midſt of *November*, both which extend from *Boughoneſs* in *Scotland*, to the *Thames* mouth.

The Fiſhing for Cod at *Alamby Wirkington* and *Whitehaven* neer the Coaſt of *Lancaſhire*, from *Eaſter* until *Whitſontide*.

The Fiſhing of *Hake* at *Haberdony Abarſwith*, and other places between *Wales* and *Ireland*, from *Whitſontide* to S. *James* tide.

The Fiſhing for *Cod* and *Ling* about *Padſtow* within

the Lands, and of *Severne* from *Christ-tide* to *Mid-lent*.

The Fishing for *Cod* on the West part of *Ireland*, and frequented by those of *Biscay Galicia* and *Portugal*, from the beginning of *April* until the latter end of *June*.

The Fishing for *Cod* and *Ling* on the North and North-west of *Ireland*, from *Christ-tide* until *September*.

The Fishing for *Cod* and *Ling* upon the North Coast of *Ireland*, from *Easter* until *Midsummer*.

The Fishing for *Pilchars* on the West Coast of *England*, from S. *James tide* unto *September*.

The Fishing for great *Scapling*, and many other sorts of Fish being about the *Islands* of *Scotland*, and in the several parts of the Brittish Seas all the yeer long.

In *September* not many yeers since, upon the Coasts of *Devonshire* neer *Minigal*, five hundred Tun of Fish were taken in one day, and about the same time three thousand pounds worth of Fish in one day were taken at S. *Ives* in *Cornwal* by small Boats and other poor Provisions; five of our men with Boats and Cables adventuring in a calm to launch out among the Holland Busses not far from *Robin Hoods Bay*, returned to *Whitby* full fraught with Herrings, and reported that they saw some of those Busses take ten twenty, and four and twenty lasts of Herrings at a draught, and returned into their Country with forty, fifty, and an hundred lasts of Herrings in one Buss.

Our Fleet of *Colliers* not many yeers since returning from *Newcastle* laden with Coals, about the Well neer *Flamborough head* and *Scarborough*, met with such multitude of *Cod*, *Ling*, and *Herrings*, that one amongst the rest with certain Ship-hooks and other Instruments, drew up as many *Cods* and *Ling* in a little space of time, as were sold well neer for as much as her whole lading of Coals; and many hundred of Ships might have been there laden in two days and two nights. Out of which wonderful affluence and abundance of Fish swarming in our Seas, that we may the better perceive the infinite gain which Forreign Nations

make,

make, I will especially insist upon the Fishing of the *Hollanders* in our Coasts, and thereby shew how they by this means principally have encreased.

First, In Shipping.
Secondly, In Mariners.
Thirdly, In Trade,
Fourthly, In Towns and Fortifications.
Fiftly, In Power abroad.
Sixtly, In Publique Revenue.
Seventhly, In Private Wealth.
Eightly and lastly, In all manner of Provisions and store of things necessary.

First, *Encrease in Shipping.*

BEsides seven hundred *Strand* boats, four hundred *Evars*, and four hundred *Gallits*, *Drivers*, and *Tod*-boats, wherewith the *Hollanders* fish upon their own Coasts, every one of these employing another Ship to fetch Salt and carry the Fish into their Countries, being in all 3000. sail, maintaining and setting at work at least forty thousand persons, Fishers, Trades-men, Women, and Children, they have an hundred *Dager*-boats one hundred and fifty Tuns a piece, or thereabouts, seven hundred *Pinks* and *Well*-boats from sixty to an hundred Tuns a piece, which altogether fish upon the Sea of *England* and *Scotland* for *Cod* and *Ling* only; and some each of those employeth another Vessel for providing of Salt and transporting their Fish, making in all sixteen hundred Ships, which maintain and imploy at least four thousand persons of all sorts. For the *Herring* season they have at least sixteen hundred Busses, all of them fishing only upon our Coasts, from *Boughonouse* in *Scotland*, to the mouth of *Thames*; and every one of those maketh work for three other Ships that attend her; the one to bring in salt from Forreign parts, the other to carry the said salt and cask to the Busses, and to bring back the Herrings, and the third to transport

transport the said Fish into Forreign Countries; So that the total number of Ships and Busses plying the *Herring-Fare*, is six thousand four hundred, whereby every Buss one with another employeth forty Mariners and Fishers within her own Bulk, and the rest ten a piece, which amounteth to one hundred and twelve thousand Fishers and Mariners; all which maintain double, if not treble so many Tradesmen, Women, and Children on land. Moreover they have four hundred Vessels at least that take Herring at *Yarmouth*, and there sell them for ready money: So that the *Hollanders* (besides three hundred Ships before mentioned fishing upon their own Shores) have at least eight thousand and four hundred Ships, only maintained by the Seas of *Great Britain*; by the which means principally *Holland* being not so big as one of our Shires of *England*, containing not above twenty eight miles in length, and twenty three in bredth, have encreased the number of their Shipping to at least ten thousand Sail, being more then are in *England*, *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, *Denmark*, *Poland*, *Sweden*, and *Russia*, and to this number they add every day, although their Country it self affords them neither materials, nor victuals, nor merchandise, to be accounted of, towards their setting forth.

Besides those of *Holland*, *Lubeck* hath seven hundred great Ships, *Hamborough* six hundred, *Embden* fourteen hundred, whereunto add the Ships of *Bremen*, *Biscay*, *Portugal*, *Spain*, and *France*, which for the most part fish in our Seas, and it will appear that ten thousand sail of Forreign Vessels, and above, are maintained and employed by fishing upon our Coast; so that in *Holland* there are built a thousand sail at the least to supply Ship-wracks, and augment their store, which as the prime and common Nursery is the chiefest means only to encrease their number.

Secondly

Secondly, *Encreaſe of Mariners.*

THe number of Ships fiſhing on our Coaſts being (as afore-ſaid) eight thouſand four hundred, if we allow but twenty perſons to every Ship one with another. the total of Mariners and Fiſhers, amounteth to an hundred ſixty eight thouſand, out of which number they daily furniſh their longer voyages to all parts of the World; for by this they are not only enabled to brook the Seas, and to know the uſe of the Tackles and Compaſs, but are likewiſe inſtructed in Trade, in the principles of Navigation and Pilotage; inſomuch as from home their greateſt Navigators have had their education and breeding.

Thirdly, *Encreaſe of Trade.*

BY reaſon of thoſe multitude of Ships and Mariners, they have extended their Trade to all parts of the World, (exporting for the moſt part) in all their voyages of *Herring* and other Fiſh, for the maintenance of the ſame; in exchange whereof they return the ſeveral Commodities of other Countries.

From the Southern parts, as *France*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*, for our *Herrings*, they return, *Oyls*, *Wines*, *Prunes*, *Hony*, *Wools*, *Grain*, with ſtore of *Coyns*; From the *Streights*, *Velvets*, *Sattins*, and all ſorts of *Silks*, *Alloms*, *Currants*, *Oyls*, and all Grocery ware, with much money.

From the *Eaſt Country*, for our *Herrings* and other *French* and *Italian* Commodities before returned, they bring home *Corn*, *Wax*, *Flax*, *Hemp*, *Pitch*, *Tar*, *Soap aſhes*, *Iron*, *Copper*, *Steel*, *Clapboard*, *Wainſcot*, *Maſts*, *Timber*, *Deal-boards*, *Poliſh Dollars*, and *Hungary Gilders*; From *Germany*, for *Herrings* and other ſalt *Fiſh*: *Iron*, *Steel*, *Glaſs*, *Milſtones*, *Rhyniſh-Wines*, *Battery plate for Armor*, with other munitions, *Silk*, *Velvets*, *Raſhes*, *Fuſtians*, *Corance*,

and such like *Francfort* Commodities, with store of *Rix-dollars*.

From *Brabant* they return for the most part ready Coyn, with some *Tapestries*, *Says*, and *Hull-shops*; yea, some of our Herrings are carried as far as *Brasile*, and that which is more strange, and greatly to our shame, that four hundred Ships, which fish with our men at *Yarmouth*, within ken almost of Land, do vent our *Herrings* amongst us here in *England*, and make us pay for the Fish taken upon our Coasts ready money, wherewith they store their owne Country.

Fourthly, *Encrease of Towns and Forts.*

BY their large extent of Trade, they are become as it were Citizens of the whole World, whereby they have so enlarged their Towns, that most of them within these four hundred yeers, are full as great again as they were before; *Amsterdam*, *Leyden*, and *Middleburgh* having been lately twice enlarged, and their streets and buildings so fairly and orderly set forth, that for beauty and strength they may compare with any other in the World, upon which they bestow infinite sums of money, all originally flowing from the bounty of the Seas, from whence by their labour and industry, they derive the beginnings of all their Wealth and Greatness; and particularly for the *Havens* of the foresaid Towns, whereof some of them cost forty, fifty, or an hundred thousand pounds. Their Fortifications also both for number and strength, upon which they have bestowed infinite sums of money, may compare with any other whatsoever.

Fifly,

Fiftly, *Encreaſe of Power abroad.*

Such being then the number of their Ships and Mariners, and ſo great their Trade occaſioned principally by their Fiſhing, they have not only ſtrengthned and fortified themſelves at home, to repel all forreign Invaſions, as lately in the War between them and *Spain*, but have likewiſe ſtretched their Power into the Eaſt and Weſt *Indies*; in many places whereof they are Lords of the Sea-coaſts, and have likewiſe fortified upon the Main, where the King and people are at their devotion; and more then this all neighbours, Princes, in their difference by reaſon of their Power at Sea, are glad to have them of their part; ſo that next to the Engliſh they are becom the moſt redoubted Nation of any other whatſoever.

Sixtly, *Encreaſe of publique Revenue*

Moreover how mightily the publique Revenue and Cuſtoms of that State are encreaſed by their Fiſhing may appear, in that about thirty yeers ſince, over and above the Cuſtoms of the merchandiſe, Exciſes, Licenſes, Waſtage, and Laſtage there was paid to the State for Cuſtom of Herrings, and other ſalt Fiſh, above thirty thouſand pounds in one yeer, beſides the tenth Fiſh, and cask paid for waſtage, which cometh at leaſt to as much more, among the Hollanders only, whereunto the tenth of other Commodities being added, it amounteth to a far greater ſum; we are likewiſe to know that a great part of their Fiſh is ſold in other Countries for ready money, for which they commonly export of the fineſt gold and Silver, and coming home recoyn it of a baſer Allay under their own ſtamp, which is no ſmall means to augment their publique Treaſure.

Seventhly
ſee the 8.th page

Continued from 7th page.

Seventhly, *Encreaſe of private Wealth.*

AS touching their private Wealth, if we conſider the abundant ſtore of Herrings and other Fiſh by them taken, and the uſual prices that they are ſold for, as alſo the multitude of Trades-men and Artificers that by reaſon of this their fiſhing are daily ſet on work, we muſt needs conclude, that the gain thereof made by private men, muſt of neceſſity be exceeding great, as by obſerving the particulars following, it will plainly appear.

During the wars between the King of *Spain* and the *Hollanders*, before the laſt Truce, the *Dunkirks* by taking, ſpoiling, and burning the Buſſes of *Holland*, and ſetting great ranſom upon the Fiſhermen, enforced them to compound for great ſums of money, that they might fiſh quietly one yeer; whereunto the next yeer after the Fiſhermen among themſelves were to pay a Doller upon every laſt of Herrings towards the maintenance of certain Ships of War, to waft and ſecure them in their Fiſhing; by reaſon whereof, there was a Record kept of the ſeveral laſts of Herrings taken that yeer, and it appeareth thereby that in one half yeer there were taken three hundred thouſand laſts of Herrings, which at twelve pound *per* laſt, amounteth to three millions and ſix hundred thouſand pounds; and at ſixteen twenty, and thirty pounds a laſt they are ordinarily ſold, being tranſported into other Countries, it cometh at leaſt to five millions of pounds.

Whereunto if we add the Herrings taken by other Nations, together with the *Cod*, *Ling*, *Hake*, and other fiſh taken by the *Hollanders* and other Neighbours upon the Britiſh Coaſts all the yeer long, the total will evidently ariſe to above ten millions of pounds.

This great Trade of Fiſhing employing ſo many men and

Ships

Ships at Sea, must necessarily maintain as great a number of Trades-men and Artizans on land; as Spinsters and Hemp-winders, for Cables, Cordage, Yarn, Twine for Nets and Lines, Weavers to make Sail-clothes, Receivers, Packers, Tacklers, Dressers, and Couchers, to sort, and make the Herrings lawful Merchandise, Tanners to tan their sails and nets, Coopers to make casks, Blocks and Bowl makers, for Ships, Keelmen, and Labourers, for carrying and removing of fish, Sawyers for plancks, Carpenters, Ship-wrights, Smiths, Car-men, Boatmen, Brewers, Bakers, and a number of others, whereof a number are maim'd persons, and unfit to be otherwise employed, besides the maintenance of all their several wives, children, and families; and further, every man, or maid-servant, or orphan, having any poor stock, may venture the same in their fishing voyages, which affords them ordinarily great increase, and is duly paid according to the proportion of their gain.

Eightly, *Encrease of Provision.*

AND to conclude, it is manifest that *Holland* only affording in it self some few *Hops*, *Madder*, *Butter*, and *Cheese*, aboundeth notwithstanding by reason of this Art of fishing, in plentiful manner with all kind of provisions (as well for life) as in Corn, Beef, Mutton, Hides, and *Cloth* (as for luxury) in Wines, Silks, and Spices (and for defence) as Pitch, Tar, Cordage, Timber; All which they have, not only in competent proportion for their own use, but are likewise able, from their several Magazines, to supply to Neighbor Countries. The premisses considered, it maketh much to the ignominy and shame of our English Nation that God and Nature offering us so rich a Treasure even to our own dores, we do notwithstanding neglect the benefit thereof, and by paying money to strangers for the fish of our own Seas, impoverishing our selves to make them rich; insomuch that for want of Industry and care in this particular, two hundred

and

Contin. at 10. fo.

and twenty five Fisher Towns are decayed, and reduced to extreme poverty; whereas on the contrary, by diligent endeavouring to make use of so great a blessing, we might in short time repair those decayed Towns of the Commonwealth, and add both Honour and Strength, and Riches to this Nation; which how easily it may be done, will in some measure appear by some observations following.

By erecting two hundred and fifty Busses of reasonable strength and Bigness, there will be employment made for a thousand Ships, and for at least twenty thousand Fishermen and Mariners at Sea, and consequently for as many Tradesmen and Labourers at Land; The Herrings taken by those Busses, will afford the State twenty thousand pounds yeerly Custom outward, and for Commodities returned inward, three hundred thousand pounds and above.

We have Timber sufficient, and at reasonable Rates growing in our Land for the building of Busses. Every shire affordeth men of hardy and able bodies fit for such imployment, who now live poorly and idely at home.

We have victual in great plenty, sold at easie rates, without payment of Excise or Impost; our shores and harbours are neer the places where our fish doe haunt; for drying our Nets, Salting, and Packing our Fishing, and for succour in stress of weather; We may bring our fish to land, Salt, and Pack it, And from parts of this States Dominions, be at our Markets in *France*, *Spain*, or *Italy*, before the *Hollanders* can arive in *Holland*. We have means to transport our fish into some Southern Countries, where the *Hollanders* seldom or never come; and though we had as many Busses as the *Hollanders*, yet is there want for all, and more; for in the East and Northern Countries, and in many other places, Herrings are every days meat, Winter and Summer, as wel to draw on drink, as to satisfie hunger; And in most places the greatest part of the year they are scarce to be had; for presently after Michaelmas, the Sound & Rivers are frozen up, so that no Herrings can be Transported into several

King-

Kingdoms, Dukedomes and free Estates, until July which is for 30 weekes space together, so that when Lent comes, there are few to be bought for money.

Lastly, since by care and industry gain'd from the Fleming, doubles by the means we may grow as expert in the Art of fishing, and in time make it a Staple Comodity of our own.

But this we shall the better and sooner do, if we consider and endeavour to reform certaine wants and abuses which heretofore hath hindred us from effecting this good and great work, whereof these that follow are none of the least.

General liberty of eating of flesh contrary to the old custom, and the Statute Laws provided for observing fish days, from whence scarcity and dearth of flesh proceedeth; for where flesh is ordinarily spent, fish will not be bought, and want of sale decayeth all Trade; Gain being the Nurse of Industry: Want of Order and Direction in our Fishing, every man being left to himself, and permitted to fish as best liketh him: whereas among the *Hollanders*, two of the best experienc'd fishermen are appointed to guide the rest of the Fleet, and the others are bound to follow them, and to cast their lines according to their discretion. The *Hollanders* and other Nations set forth with their *Busses* in *June*, to find the shoal of fish, and having found it, dwell amongst it till *November*; whereas we stay till the Herrings come home to the Road-steds, and sometimes suffer them to pass by, ere we look out, our Herring fishing continuing only seven weeks at the most, and theirs twenty.

The Hollanders Busses are great and strong, and able to brook foul weather, whereas our Cobbles, Crayers, and Boats being small and thin-sided, are easily swallowed by a rough sea, not daring to adventure far in fair weather, by reason of their weakness, for fear of storms.

The Hollanders are industrious, and no sooner are discharged of their lading but presently put forth for more, and seek for markets abroad as well as at home; whereas our English after they have been once at Sea, do commonly ne-

ver. continued at 12. page

ver return again, until all the money taken for their fish be spent, and they in debt, seeking only to serve the next Market.

The Hollanders do retain the Merchants, who during the Herring season, do duly come to the places where the Busses arrive, and joyning together in several Companies, do presently agree for the lading of thirty or forty Busses at once, and so being discharged, they may speedily return to their former fishing: Whereas our Fishermen are uncertain of their Chap-men, and forced to spend much time, in putting off their Fish by parcels.

These, and other defects would carefully be taken into consideration and certain Orders made to make our Fishing prosperous and successful, especially considering the mischiefs the neglect hereof hath brought to the Nation in general, and to many good Towns and Corporations in particular, as by Authority even of Parliament it self in the Statute of 33. *Hen.* 8. is plainly testified; which I have briefly set down, to avoid the prolixity of the Original. Because the English Fishermen dwelling on the Sea-Coast, do leave off their Trade of Fishing in our Seas, and went but the half Seas over, and thereupon the English did buy fish of *Pickards*, *Flemmings*, *Normans*, and *Zelanders*: by reason whereof, many incommodities did grow unto the Realm (*Viz.*) The Decay of the Wealth and Prosperity as wel of the Cinque Ports and members of the same, as of other Coast Towns by the Sea side, which were built and inhabited by a great Multitude of people by reason of our using and exercising the Craft and feat of fishing. Secondly, The Decay of a great Number of Boats and ships: And Thirdly, of many good Mariners, both able men in body by their diligent labours and Continual exercise of fishing, and expert by reason thereof in the knowledge of the Sea Coasts, aswel within this land as in other parts beyond the Seas; It was therefore enacted, that no maner of persons, *English Denizen*,

or

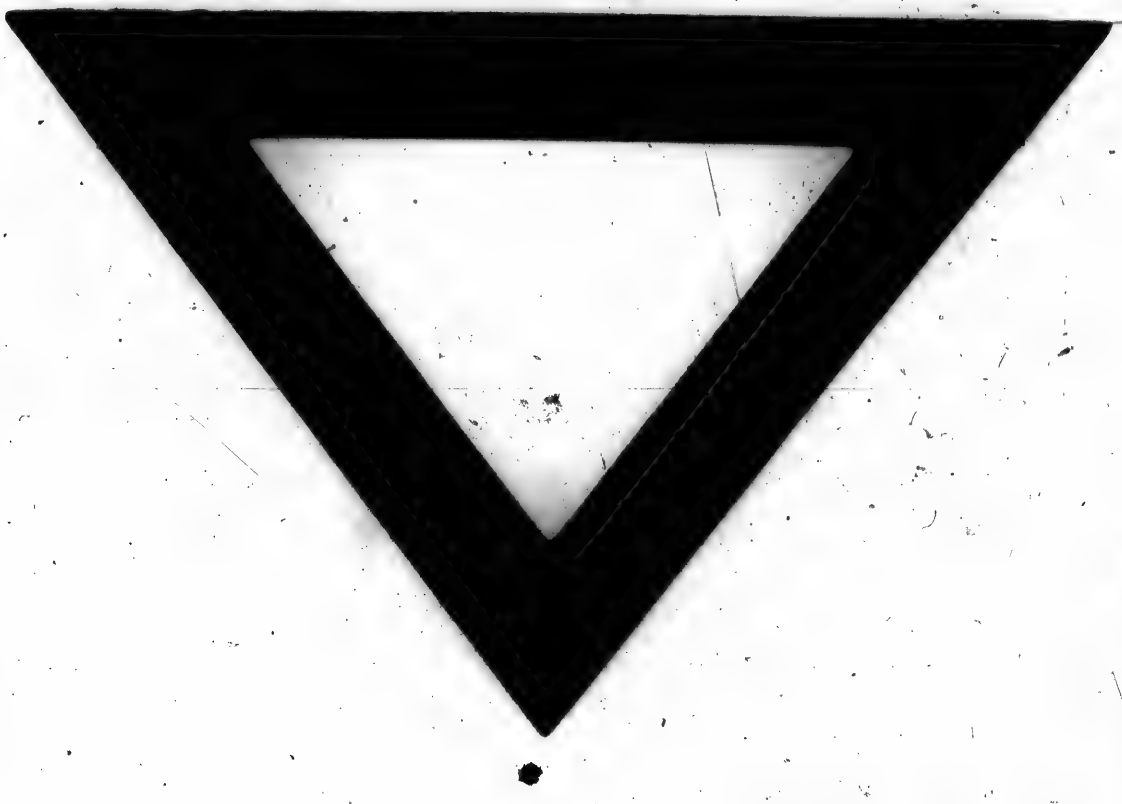
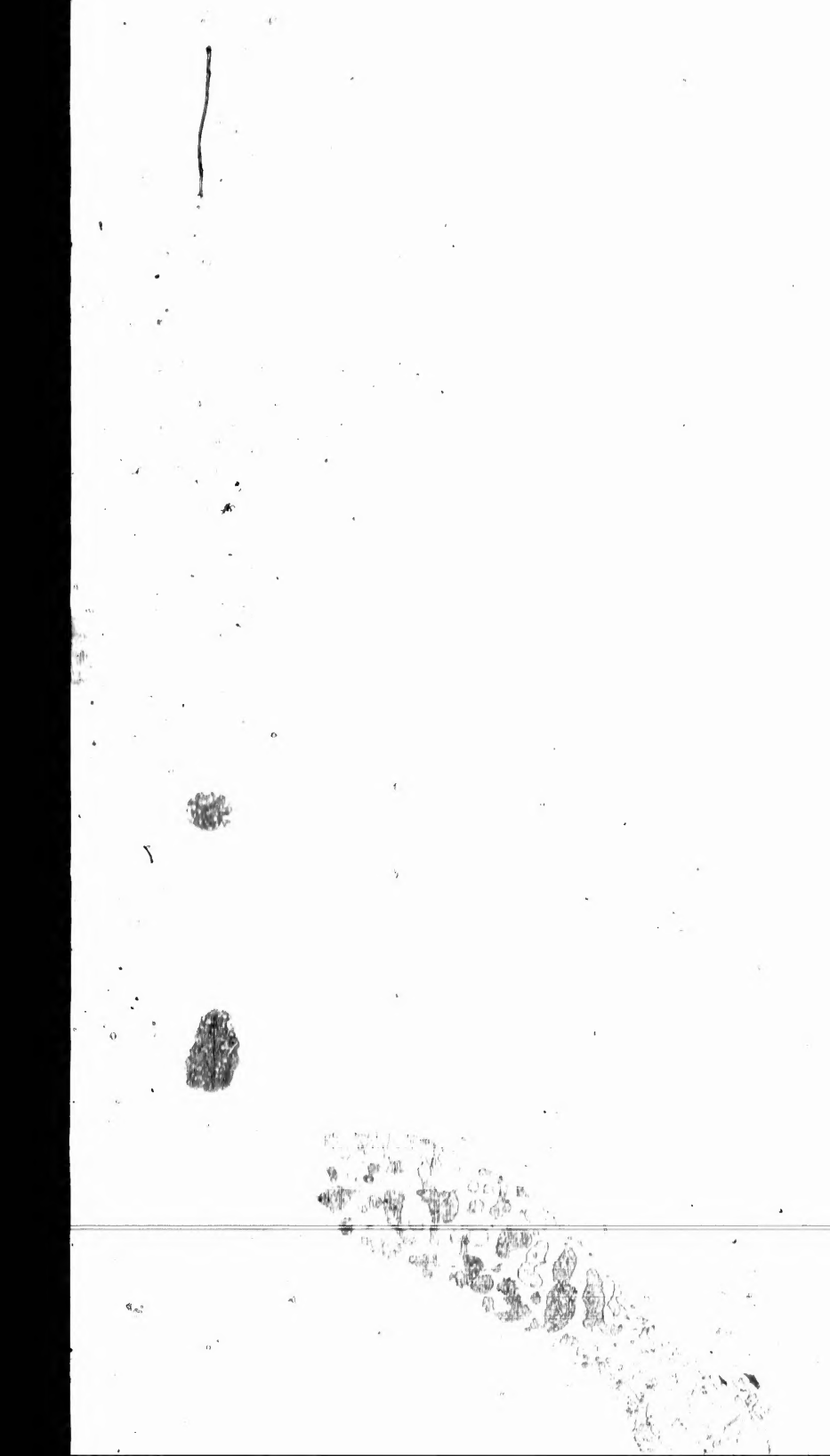
or *Strangers*, at that time, or at any time after, dwelling in *England*, should buy any *Fresh Fish* of any Strangers in the said Ports of *Flaunders*, *Zeland*, *Picardie*, *France*, as upon the Sea between shore and shore &c.

This Act by mean Continuances, was continued from Parliament to Parliament, until the first of *Queen Mary*, and from thence to the end of the next Parliament, and then expired.

For Conclusion, saving by that which hath formerly been declared; it evidently appeareth, that the States of the Common-wealth of *England*, by immemorable perscription, continual ulage, and possession, the acknowledgement of all Neighbours, States, and the Municipal Laws of this Nation, have ever held the soveraigne Lordship of the Seas of *England*; and that unto them (by reason their soveraignty) the supreme Command and Jurisdiction over the Passage and fishing in the same rightfully appertaineth; considering also the natural Scite of these our Seas, that interpose themselves betwen the great Northern Commerce of the North part of the world, & of that of the East, West, and Southern Climats; and withal, the infinite commodities that the fishing in the same is daily made, It cannot be doubted, but that the States by means of their Wisdom and Vertue, and by the Justice, and faithfulness, and obedient disposition of the Natives and people of this our Common-wealth, may easily (without injustice to any State or person whatsoever) be made the greatest State for Command and Wealth, and the people thereof, be the most oppulent and flourishing Nation of any other in the world; And this the rather, for that this State is now almost absolute Commander of all the Brittish Isles and hath also enlarged their Dominions over a great part of the Western Indies; by means of which extent of Empire, crossing in a manner the whole Ocean, the trade & persons of all Nations moving from one part of the world to the other, must of necessity come within the Compass of their

Concluded at 16.ª pa.

their Power and Jurisdiction; And therefore the Soveraignty of our Seas being the most Precious Iewel of the State, and next under God the principall means of our Wealth and Safety, All true English hearts and hands are bound by all possible means and diligence to perserve and maintain the same, even with the utmost hazard of their lives, their goods, and fortunes.

By all that which hath bin said, it doth appear how great a Nation *England* is, by reason of the inestimable Riches and Commodities which (besides our selves) other Nations our Neighbours do yeerly reap, especially by Fishing in our Seas; insomuch that no Christian Prince in the World is Lord of any Territory that (considering all circumstances) yeildeth the like constant and general benefit.

FINIS.